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Ruth M. Saskowski

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Lee A. BULLA, Jr. and Mehmet CANDAS

Serial No.:

09/696,929

Filing Date:

October 25, 2000

For:

MICROBE, MICROBIAL

EXOPOLYSACCHARIDE AND USES

THEREOF

Examiner: Francisco Chandler Prats

Group Art Unit: 1651

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to a Notice regarding compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821-1.825 mailed 20 November 2001, time for response to which was set to expire 20 December 2001. A petition for an extension of time of one (1) month until 20 January 2002 is attached hereto, along with the required fee. The following amendment is believed responsive.

Enclosed is the following Exhibit A: Marked-up Version of Amendments to the Specification and Claims.